

**Minutes From a Meeting of the Concordia Council on
Student Life**

Held on November 30, 2001

AD 121 10:00am Loyola Campus

PRESENT: Dr. D. Boisvert, Chair, Ms J. Hackett, Secretary, Mr. R. Al-Hadad, Mr. P. Blais, Mr. J. Brisebois Ms C. Costello, Mr. R. Côté, Ms M. Drew, Me P. Frégeau, Mr. A. Gagnon, Dr. S.M. Graub, Mr. B. Hamideh, Ms C. Hedrich, Mr. A. Igdebeli, Mr. R. Luppicini, Ms O. Maibroda, Ms G. Pagé, Ms B. Stewart, Ms C. Boujaklian, Mr. W. Curran, Ms L. Lipscombe, Ms N. Ngoya, Ms L. Toscano

ABSENT WITH REGRETS: Dr. J. Jans, Dr. F. Shaver, Mr. H. Zarins

ABSENT: Mr. M. Nimchuk, Ms J. De Cubellis

GUESTS: Ms A. Ghadban, Mr. M. Golden

1. APPROVAL OF AGENDA

A motion to approve the agenda was carried unanimously.

2. REMARKS FROM THE CHAIR

As Mr. Blais was not present, Dr. Boisvert asked if Ms Pagé would update Council on the status of the CSU Elections. Although Ms Pagé said that she could not speak officially, she explained that as the disqualification of one of the candidates was not done properly, the election period was extended. She said the 500 students who voted during the period when the candidate's name was not on the ballot would be contacted and informed that in order to have their vote count, they must vote again.

**3. APPROVAL OF MINUTES FROM THE MEETING OF OCTOBER 26,
2001**

Ms Toscano pointed out that with respect to 4.2 Notice of Motions, Motion #3 on Page 2 of the minutes; the requested deletion was **only intended** for the phrase "at time of graduation". The motion still endorsed the recommendation to offer notations on transcripts.

A motion to approve the minutes as amended was carried unanimously

4. BUSINESS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES

4.1 Poster Policy

Dr. Boisvert informed Council that discussions were ongoing between the student affairs coordinator and the various student organizations concerning the poster policy. He said the draft policy would be brought back to Council for discussion and ratification.

4.2 Motion #3 – Recognition of Student Participation in University Governance

Dr. Boisvert invited Mr. Golden to address this issue. Mr. Golden drew Council's attention to the distributed document which he had prepared in response to the concerns expressed at the October CCSL meeting. He briefly highlighted the various points. He pointed out that the inclusion of a notation on a student's transcript must be approved at several different levels and therefore may take some time. Ms Hedrich distributed a chart comparing student fees for the different faculties, programmes, citizenship and student status.

After a lengthy discussion, Council was in agreement with the following:

- Tuition waivers would only be offered as of 2002-2003
- Base of \$55.61 per credit would be used
- 3 credits per term (a ceiling of 6 credits per academic year)
- monetary credit placed in students account after requirements are met (April 15)
- Waivers would be for tuition only and would be taxable
- Only students sitting on either Board of Governors, Senate, CCSL, Faculty Councils would be eligible

Dr. Boisvert agreed to submit this CCSL proposal to either the Board of Governors or the University Administration. He said he would ensure to the best of ability that this initiative is implemented as soon as possible.

4.3 Clock Situation at the SGW Campus (Ms C. Boujaklian)

Dr. Boisvert invited Ms Boujaklian to address this issue. Ms Boujaklian admitted that the "clock synchronization" problem has been a thorn in the university's side for some time. She endeavored to explain the "master-slave" system which currently controls the timing of the clocks in the Hall Building. As the system is old and therefore difficult to repair, there is a proposal for a new system currently being reviewed. However, funds must be found to support this project. Me Fréreau, seconded by Mr. Côté, made the following motion:

BE IT RESOLVED THAT CCSL recommends to the Vice-Rector, Services that every effort be made to synchronize the time-keeping devices on both campuses, and that the appropriate resources be allocated to this end.

The motion was carried unanimously

5. REPORTS AND ITEMS OF INFORMATION

As the reports from the Student Services Directors have been distributed via the CCSL list-serve, Dr. Boisvert hoped Council had found time to review them. Dr. Boisvert asked that each director speak briefly about his or her service. He welcomed questions from Council.

Ms Pagé asked how Services for Disabled Students deals with areas or buildings that are not accessible for students. Me Fréreau explained that the least accessible buildings are those that university rents. As the goal of the university is to move out of rented space and into owned accessible space, this problem will be eventually solved. But for the time being, classroom locations are changed to accommodate students/professors with disabilities. Regular meeting rooms can be relocated to an accessible room. Dr. Boisvert added that often the "service" could go to the student instead of vice-versa.

Mr. Luppigini asked for clarification with respect to fees for international students. Mr. Côté explained that as the Government of Quebec has agreements with francophone countries their students pay only the base rate. He indicated that 70% of international students are exempt from international fees in the province of Quebec. The University does not receive funding from the government for international students in a privatized programme.

In light of on-line courses being offered at the university, Ms Maibroda asked how the university could assist or enhance the university experience as she felt the study skills and needs are very different for those students. Dr. Graub agreed with the feelings expressed by Ms Maibroda and said it was important for student services to be aware of the varying needs and respond appropriately. Dr. Graub said that Counselling & Development has been looking at ways that they can assist in making on-line courses more effective.

6. STUDENT LIFE ISSUES

As the Library is open 24 hours a day for the examination period, Ms Oksana asked if the underground parking hours could be extended to match the Library hours. This would facilitate those students wishing to avail themselves of this extended service especially during the weekends. Dr. Boisvert agreed to raise this issue with Auxillary Services who oversee parking at the university.

It was noted that the atrium of the Library building was set up for study space. Mr. Curran said this set-up had been requested by the Library to accommodate as many students as possible. However, it was important to remember it was "shared space" as Conference Services is responsible for the use of that space. Mr. Curran agreed that there was a lack of space for students wishing to study in teams or work on projects and reiterated that when the 5th floor is operational, there should be sufficient number of seminar/study rooms for that purpose. Dr. Boisvert added that the Mezzanine is reserved once again for study space during the examination period.

Ms Toscano informed Council that students have the option now to "register on the web". She noted that "CARL" would remain in operation.

Mr. Luppicini said that the Graduate Students Association was happy to report that the GSA Communication & Resource Centre will be operational in January 2002.

Ms Ngoya said that the Alumni Office in conjunction with the International Students Office were pleased to announce a new initiative for this year: a reception for graduating international students at the time of convocation.

7. REPORT FROM THE CHAIR OF THE RECREATION & ATHLETICS BOARD

Mr. Côté confirmed there was a meeting of the R&A Board on November 19th. He noted there was a full slate of members in attendance. He informed Council that 4 athletic teams would be reviewed this year: Men's and Women's Basketball and Men's and Women's Soccer. A report would be available in the spring of 2002.

8. NEW BUSINESS

8.1 Proposed Student Services Mission Statement

On behalf of Council Dr. Boisvert thanked the students, staff and faculty who participated in this effort. He explained that the mission statement was distributed to Council for discussion and ratification. He briefly spoke about the importance of having a mission statement for student services, explaining how it helps focus our discussions on issues, reminds us of our raison d'être and captures our identity for publications.

A motion to approve the mission statement was made by Mr. Luppinci and seconded by Ms Pagé.

The motion was carried unanimously

8.2 Proposed Concordia University Mission Statement

Dr. Boisvert drew Council's attention to the distributed University Mission Statement. He asked if Council believed the mandate was clear enough in its support of and advocacy for students and if it was realistic. After a lengthy discussion, student members in particular, expressed some concerns about whether the principles enshrined in the current mission statement are followed in the elaboration and implementation of University policies and decisions. Though members were well aware of the "ideal" nature of the mission statement, they also suggested that steps be undertaken to assess its continued relevance and applicability. Dr. Boisvert agreed to forward the thoughts and concerns of Council to the Board of Governors.

9. NEXT MEETING: Friday, April 5, 2002 10:00am Ad 121

10. TERMINATION OF MEETING:

A motion to terminate the meeting was made by Me Fréreau and seconded by Mr. Blais.